

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----035218 122054Z /70

O 122047Z JUN 78

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1956

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 02404

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS

TAGS: PORG, MARR, UNSC, LE, IS

SUBJECT: UNIFIL: ARRANGMENTS FOR JUNE 13

REF: JERUSALEM 1594 (NOTAL)

1. UNDER SECRETARY-GENERAL URQUHART AND JAMES JONAH PROVIDED MISOFF ON JUNE 12 WITH BRIEFING OF WEEKEND DEVELOPMENTS RELATED TO FINAL PHASE OF IDF WITHDRAWAL. MOST IMPORTANT EVENTS WERE (A) GENERAL KHOURY'S ISSUANCE OF ORDERS TO MAJOR HADDAD TO STAY IN BARRACKS AND TO CEASE SECURITY PATROLS AS SOON AS UNIFIL UNITS ARE DEPLOYED THROUGHOUT THE AREA, AND (B) HADDAD'S ACCEPTANCE OF THESE ORDERS. LEBANESE PERM REP TUENI
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INFORMED URQUHART ON JUNE 12 OF HADDAD'S ACCEPTANCE ADDING THAT PROSPECTS ALSO SEEMED IMPROVED NOW FOR AN EARLY (PERHAPS BY THE END OF THE MONTH) POSITIONING OF LEBANESE ARMY FORCES IN THE SOUTH.

2. URQUHART DESCRIBED AS UNFORTUNATE THE FLAP PROVOKED BY GEN. ERSKINE'S RADIO INTERVIEW. UNNY ISSUED

STATEMENT IMMEDIATELY AFTERWARDS ON JUNE 10: QTE: "IN REGARD TO THE REPORT OF AN INTERVIEW WITH MAJOR GENERAL ERSKINE..... THE REPORT APPEARS TO BE BASED ON A MISUNDERSTANDING AND DOES NOT REPRESENT THE PRESENT STATE OF AFFAIRS RELATING TO ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL AS IT IS UNDERSTOOD AT THE UN HEADQUARTERS. VARIOUS ASPECTS OF THE FINAL PHASE OF THE ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL ARE NOW BEING DISCUSSED AND CLARIFIED WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF LEBANON. WE EXPECT THAT THE FINAL PHASE OF THE WITHDRAWAL WILL TAKE PLACE AS AGREED IN AN ORDERLY FASHION." END QTE.

3. TURNING TO THE JUNE 12 MEETING OF GEN. EITAN AND GENERALS SIILASVUO AND ERSKINE, URQUHART EXPRESSED HOPE THAT THERE WOULD BE NO LAST MINUTE HITCHES. HE SAID EITAN'S COMPLAINT THAT UNIFIL WAS NOT PREVENTING PALESTINIAN INFILTRATION, HIS ASSERTION THAT UNIFIL WAS NOT NEEDED IN THE CHRISTIAN ENCLAVES AND THAT UNIFIL SHOULD AVOID DEPLOYMENT IN THESE AREAS, AND HIS REMARK THAT THE GOI IS IN POSITION TO INFLUENCE THE CHRISTIANS TO BE COOPERATIVE ONLY IF UNIFIL DOES NOT PRESS FOR A HASTY DEPLOYMENT -- ARE WORRISOME TO THE UN.

4. URQUHART NOTED THAT HADDAD'S ACCEPTANCE OF GOL AUTHORITY, WHICH UNNY IS TAKING AS AN ACCURATE REPORT, STRENGTHENS UNIFIL'S POSITION. IN THIS REGARD, KUWAITI CONFIDENTIAL

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AMB. BISHARA CALLED DURING URQUHART'S CONVERSATION WITH MISSOFF TO ASK ABOUT IDF WITHDRAWAL BUT HE DID NOT RAISE ISSUE OF HADDAD'S STATUS. URQUHART COMMENTED THAT BISHARA AND OTHER ARAB AMBASSADORS IN NEW YORK (EXCLUDING TUENI) DID NOT SEEM KEYED INTO THE HADDAD/GOL EXCHANGES AS YET.

5. MOVING ON TO THE NEXT STEPS, URQUHART WONDERED WHAT THE JUNE 12 ILMAC MEETING WOULD PRODUCE AND HE HOPED THE ERSKINE MEETING WITH HADDAD SET FOR JUNE 13 AT MARJ UYUN WOULD SETTLE SOME OF THE QUESTIONS SURROUNDING THE MODALITIES OF UNIFIL DEPLOYMENT. HE SAID UNNY HAD BEEN PLANNING TO ISSUE A PROGRESS REPORT COVERING THE LAST PHASE OF IDF WITHDRAWAL, THE KHOURY/HADDAD EXCHANGES AND THE STATUS OF THE "GOOD FENCE". WE WERE ABLE TO REGISTER CONCERN OVER INCLUDING REFERENCES TO "GOOD FENCE" (JERUSALEM 1594) WITHOUT IN ANY WAY REFERRING TO OUR EARLIER INFORMATION. IN SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATION WITH JONAH WE WENT FURTHER IN NOTING CODE WORD ASPECT OF "GOOD FENCE", VIZ. THAT IT IS AN ISRAELI PHRASE AND

USE OF IT WOULD BE CERTAIN TO RAISE FUROR WITH LEBANESE, PALISTINIANS AND OTHER ARABS. JONAH TOOK POINT AND THOUGHT BORDER ARRANGEMENTS COULD BE DESCRIBED IN GENERAL TERMS. HOWEVER, BOTH HE AND URQUHART FEEL STRONGLY THAT SINCE JERUSALEM POST HAS ALREADY MADE ISSUE OF FUTURE STATUS OF "GOOD FENCE" THAT UNIFIL, IF IT IS TO HAVE ANY INTEGRITY, CANNOT AVOID MENTION OF SITUATION ENTIRELY.

6. LASTLY, WE BROACHED QUESTION OF CONTINUING PALESTINIAN INFILTRATION, PER STATE 148150. URQUHART AND

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----035230 122053Z /70

O 122047Z JUN 78
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1957
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
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JONAH BOTH REPLIED THAT UNNY DOES NOT HAVE REPORTS AS YET FROM UNIFIL ON NUMBERS AND LOCATIONS OF PALESTINIANS. HE SAID THE MOST RECENT WAS APPROXIMATELY 150 MEN. WHEN WE DEMURRED OVER LOW ESTIMATE BOTH AGREED IT MIGHT BE LOW BUT EMPHASIZED THAT UNIFIL IS WELL AWARE OF THE IMPLICATIONS OF THIS PROBLEM. WHILE RECOGNIZING THAT UNIFIL HEADQUARTERS MUST DEAL WITH THIS IMMEDIATELY, JONAH NOTED THAT SETTLING IN THE NEW CONTINGENTS AND IDF FINAL PHASE OF

WITHDRAWAL HAVE TAKEN UP LARGE PORTION OF UNIFIL'S
TIME IN RECENT DAYS. YOUNG

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INTERNATIONAL PEACEKEEPING FORCES, BRIEFING MATERIALS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978USUNN02404
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780245-0805
Format: TEL
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780668/aaaacgkb.tel
Line Count: 171
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 4c38d18a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 78 JERUSALEM 1594
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2382738
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UNIFIL: ARRANGMENTS FOR JUNE 13
TAGS: PORG, MARR, LE, IS, UNSC, UNIFIL
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/4c38d18a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014